

Q#1875

Evidentiary Document No. 5447.

BOUGAINVILLE WAR CRIMES.

EXHIBIT "A"

I, SX10334 Major Douglas John McBAIN of Army Headquarters, Melbourne, make oath and say:

1. I am an officer of the Australian Military Forces.
2. Annexed hereto and marked Exhibit "A" is a true copy of an Interrogation of Capt. WATANABE KAORU and Major ITO, Taichi on 7 November, 1945, which I have in my custody in the course of my duties.
3. The original abovementioned document cannot be made available immediately as it is required for trials of minor war criminals.

Sworn before me at Melbourne)
this 27th day of May, 1946.) (Signed) Douglas McBain
Major.

(Signed) W. Bunsell Capt.
An officer of the Australian
Military Forces.

Capt. WATANABE Kaoru of 17 Army MP Unit and later of 38 Bde MP Unit being questioned with the assistance of Sgt. M. RUGLESS (of RAAF att ATIS) states:

I arrived at RABAUL 22 Mar 43,
EREVENTA 28 Mar 43
then to NEW GOKGIA until Sep 43
then to EREVENTA until 27 Oct 43
then to TARIENA-PORTON area, arriving 6 Nov 43 departing 27 May 45 then to NUMA NUMA until surrender.

Q. At TARIENA did you have a w/o MORITA with you?
A. Yes - before I arrived there, several small MP units were operating under W/O MORITA Hachisaburo. When I arrived I took over from him and he remained with me.

Q. Where is MORITA now?
A. He died of malaria and another fever about 30 May 45 at NUMA NUMA.

Q. How many white prisoners did you know of while you were at TARIENA?
A. Three.

Q. Were they under your control or the control of any of your MPs?

A. The orders concerning them came from MP HQ at 17 Army HQ EREVENTA (Major ITO Taichi - now at FAURO ISLAND)

Q. Were they all together,
A. There was one on his own - the other two were together.

Q. When did you first see them?
A. One was at TARLENA when I arrived.

Q. Did you know about him before you arrived?
A. No.

Q. Who was in charge of the prisoners when you arrived?
A. MORITA, acting direct under orders from MP HQ

Q. What was their nationality and arm?
A. US flyers.

Q. What ranks?

A. Two were 2/Lts. and one a Sgt. They were all airmen - I think they were bomber pilots.

Q. Did you hear when and where they had been captured?

A. One, an officer, was captured at TARLENA about the beginning of Nov. 43. The other two in Dec. 43 at PORTON.

Q. Where were you when the latter two were captured?
A. About 6 kilometres from the coast at PORTON.

Q. Did you hear whether the first one came down at TARLENA or whether he was brought there from another island?

A. Natives handed him over to the local MPs.

Q. Was his name NORIAN?
A. I cannot recollect it - it may have been.

Q. What happened to him?
A. He went to RABAUL about the end of Nov 43 on a submarine.

Q. Did you see him go aboard the submarine?
A. No. I saw him on his way to it.

Q. Did you hear of him after that?
A. No.

Q. What unit would hold him at RABAUL?
A. No. 6 MP Field Unit.

Q. Were the two captured at PORTON shot down over that place?
A. I didn't see the crash but I heard they came down there.

Q. Crash land or parachutes?
A. Parachutes.

Q. Had there been a raid on PORTON at the time?
A. Yes. There were raids every day in that area.

Q. What type of plane was it?
A. I heard that they were Lightnings escorting the bombers, but I didn't see them.

Q. Did you hear their names?
A. Yes, at the time, but I can't recall them now.

Q. What happened to them?
A. They parachuted into the sea between TAIOF ISLAND and PORTON, and when they reached land they were taken to the MPs. Under Orders from 17 Army they were executed. They had attempted to escape. One of them had a pistol. They were recaptured. They were executed because of that.

Q. Who reported the attempted escape?
A. MORITA reported it to me and I reported it by signal to MP HQ at 17 Army EREVENTA.

Q. How long did it take to get the reply?
A. One week after I sent the wire I received the reply "They must be killed."

Q. Who did you order to carry that out?
A. I gave the order to MORITA who carried it out with two subordinates:

1. S/M ARIKAWA Tatsuo. He later went to RABAUL escorting Japanese soldiers for court-martial. On the way back the submarine was sunk and ARIKAWA drowned.
2. Sgt. SUZUKI Tainiji.

Q. Did MORITA report afterwards having carried out your orders?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you then report that to MP HQ at 17 Army?
A. Yes.

Q. Did MORITA say who had beheaded the prisoners?
A. S/M AIKAWA beheaded one and KITAMURA the other

Q. Who is KITAMURA?
A. A supply officer - he was at the depot at EREVENTA before going to TAKLENA.

Q. What had he to do with the matter?
A. The S/M's sword didn't cut too well so he handed over the 2nd. prisoner to KITAMURA.

Q. Why was KITAMURA at the execution?
A. His house was nearby and he must have gone as a spectator.

Q. Are those 3 the only white prisoners you have seen?
A. Yes.

Q. Did you meet Capt. (Then 1/Lt) IKEBA at TAKLENA
A. Yes.

Q. Were any of these white prisoners taken to IKEBA's hut at any time?
A. No.

Q. Do you speak English?
A. No.

Q. How did you talk to the prisoners?
A. I would use the interpreter OKUSA.

Q. How do you account for IKEBA saying that in Nov. 43 he had given a cup of tea to two US airmen prisoners?
A. IKEBA was at the wharf at POKTON and there saw 2 prisoners and invited them to his house for some tea. I forgot until you reminded me.

Q. Are you in the same compound as Major Ito?
A. Yes - No. 1 area.

MAJOR ITO Taichi of 17 Army MP Unit being questioned with the assistance of Agt. M. HUGLESS (of RAAF att ATIS) says:

Q. In Nov-Dec. 43 were you in charge of MP unit at 17 Army at EREVENTA?
A. Yes - from Oct. 43.

Q. Was WATANABE under your command?
A. Yes.

Q. In Dec. 43 did you receive a signal from WATANABE reference two US airmen?

A. Yes.

Q. What was in the signal?

A. This wire explained that they had tried to escape and offered resistance and asking for orders as to treatment of them.

Q. What did you do on receipt of that signal?

A. I took it to Maj (Now L-Col) MIYAKAWA at the office of Chief of staff 17 Army (Maj-Gen AKINAGA).

Q. Did MIYAKAWA tell you what to do?

A. We conferred and I think I wrote the reply, but I've handled so many signals that I do not remember now. As that was 2 years ago I cannot recall it very well.

Q. Whose decision was it?

A. It was not mine - it was the HQ.

Q. What was the reply?

A. That they should be killed.

Q. Did you or MIYAKAWA discuss the matter with anyone else before sending the reply?

A. I don't know. There were other officers at the HQ who may have come in.

This is the document marked Exhibit "A" referred to in the Affidavit of SX10334, Maj. D. J. McBain, A.H.Q., sworn before me this 27th day of May, 1946, as being produced and shown to him at this time of his swearing his said Affidavit.

(Signed) ...BUNSELL...Capt.

「ブリゲンヴァイル」駁爭犯

證據書類「A」

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余、即テ「メルボルン」陸軍司令部附、S X 10
三三四四軍少佐「ダグラス・ジョン・マクベイン」
ハ宣誓シ五ノ如ク過ベマス。

一、私ハ該洲陸軍ノ將校テアリマス。

二、此處ニ添付シ、證據書類「A」ト記シテ附セ
ラレタル一九四五年十一月七日ニ於ケル「ワタ
ナベカオル」大尉及ビ「イトウタイテ」少佐ノ
訊問書ハ眞正ナル寫本テアリマス。右ヲ私ハ該
務上保管シテ居マス。

三、前記書類ノ原本ハ下級駁爭犯者ノ識別ニ必
要トセラルハ故ニ、宣チニ利用スル事ハ不可能
テアリマス。

軍少佐「ダグラス・マクベイン」(署名)

一九四六年五月二十七日「メルボルン」ニ於テ余ノ前ニ
於テ宣誓サル。

該洲陸軍將校

「W・ブンセル」大尉 (署名)

第十七軍憲兵隊附後ニ第三十八旅團憲兵隊附下ナ
レル「ワタナベカオル」軍少佐ハ「M・ラグレス」

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算書（聯合國軍許通譯部附證詞空軍）管佐ノ下ニ
訊問セラレ、左ノ如ク答フ。

私ハ一九四三年三月二十二日ニ「ラバウル」ニ、
一九四三年三月二十八日ニ「エレヴェンタ」ニ夫
々到着シマシタ、ソレヨリ一九四三年九月マテハ
「ニュウジヨジア」ニ、次テ一九四三年十月二十一
七日迄ハ「エレヴェンタ」ニ居リ、次テ一九四三
年十一月六日ニ「タリナ・ボートン」地區ニ到
着シ、一九四五年五月二十七日ニ同地ヲ去リ、降
伏當時マテ「スマスマ」ニ后マシタ。

問、「タリナ」ニ於テ貴方ハ「モリタ」准尉ト
一組デシタカ、

答、ハイ、私方該地ニ着ク前ニ軍械ノ官兵小部隊
ガ「モリタ」ハテサプロウ准尉ノ下ニ活動シ
テ后マシタ。私方到着スルト私ハ彼ノ任務ヲ
引継ギ彼ハ我々ト共ニ后マシタ。

問、「モリタ」ハ今何處ニ后マスカ、

答、彼ハ一九四五年五月三十日「スマスマ」ニ
於テマラリア反ビ他ノ病洞テ死亡シマシタ。

問、「タリナ」ニ后ツタ間ニ貴方ハ幾人ノ白人
脅威ヲ知リマシタカ

答、三人デス。

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3.

問、彼等ハ貴方ノ管理下ニアリマシタカ、或ハ貴方ノ下ノ憲兵ノ管理下ニアツタノデスカ、
答、彼等ニ賦スル命令ハ「エレヴェンタ」第十七
軍司令部附憲兵隊本部「イドウタイチ」少佐
1目下「フアウロ」島ニ在リカラ來マシタ。

問、彼等ハ全部一船テシタカ
答、一人ハ單獨テ居マシタ! 他ノ二人ハ一船テシタ。

問、何時彼等ヲ始メテ見マシタカ、
答、私方到着シタ時一人ハ「タリナ」ニ居マシタ。

問、到着スル前ニ、彼ニツイテ知ツテ居マシタカ
答、イイエ

問、貴方方到着シタ時ニハ貴方管轄ノ代理ヲシテ
居マシタカ、

答、「モリタ」デス、第十七軍附憲兵本部ノ命令
下ニ直接任務ヲ行ツテ居マシタ。

問、彼等ノ國籍及ビ兵種ハ何テシタカ、

答、合衆國飛行士デシタ。

問、階級ハ、

答、二人ハ少尉、一人ハ軍曹テシタ。彼等ハ皆空
軍員テシタ! 憲兵機操縦士ダツタト思ヒマス。

問、貴方ハ何時、何處テ彼等方管轄トナツタカ、

居キマシタカ、

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答、一八、1將校1ハ一九四三年十一月ノ初メ頭
ニ「ターレオ」テ端ヘラレマシタ。併ノ二人
ハ一九四三年十二月ニ「ボートン」ニ於テテ
ス。

問、「ボートン」テ端ヘラレタ二人ハ其ノ頭ノ上

答、空テ爆轟サレタノテスカ

答、私ハ墜落ハ見マセンテシタガ彼等方其度ニ降
下シタトイフ事ヲ聞キマシタ。

問、墜落テシタカバラシウト降下テシタカ

答、バラシウト降下テシタ。

問、當時「ボートン」ニハ空ノアリマシタカ

答、ハイ、真ノ地方ニハ毎日空襲ガアリマシタ。

問、何型ノ飛行機テシタカ

答、爆撃機ヲ駆使スル「ライドニング」機ジツタ
ト聞キマシタガ、私ハソレ等ヲ見マセンテシタ。

問、彼等ノ石前ヲ聞キマシタカ

答、ハイ、真ノ當時聞キマシタガ今ヘ思ヒ出セマセン。

問、彼等ハ何ウナツタデスカ、

答、彼等ハ「バラシウト」テ「タイオフ」島ト
「ボートン」ノ間ノ海中ニ降下シマシタ、國
境ニ着イタ時、彼等ハ兵兵ノ所ニ道レテ行カ
レマシタ。第十七軍ノ命令ニ依リ彼等ハ死刑
ニ處セラレマシタ。彼等ハ逃亡シヨウトシマ
シタ。一人ハ拳銃ヲ持ツテ居マシタ。彼等ハ
尋ビ端ヘラレマシタ。其ノ度ニ死刑ニ處セラレタデス。

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問、逸亡ガ企テラレタ事ヲ誰ガ報告シタノテハウカ、
答、「モリタ」ガ私ニ報告ラシマシタ、ソレテ私ハ
「ユレヴェンタ」第十七軍附憲兵本部ニ信號ヲ
以テ報知シマシタ。

問、管ヲ得ルマテハ、ドノ位カ、リマシタカ、
答、無事ヲ證シテカラ一連の後ニ、私ハ「彼等ヲ強
スベシ」とトイフ管ヲ受ケマシタ。
問、ソレヲ誰ニ命シテ實行サセマシタカ、
答、私ハ「モリタ」ニ命令ヲ下シ、彼ハ左記二人ノ
部下ト共ニソレヲ實行シマシタ。

「アリカワタツオ」官長、彼ハ後日、軍法會
議ニ付セラレル日本兵ヲ處シテ「ラバウヒ
ニ行キマシタ、歸路、清水邊ガ草流サレ「ア
リカワ」ハ溺死シマシタ。

二「ススキダイニジ」軍官。

問、彼テ「モリタ」ハ、貴方ノ命令ヲ實行シタコト
管ヲ報告シマシタカ、

答、ハイ。

問、ソレカラ貴方ハ其ノ事ヲ第十七軍附憲兵本部ニ
報告シマシタカ、

答、ハイ。

問、「モリタ」ハ誰ガ俘虜ノ首ヲ切ッタカ、云ヒマシ
タカ、

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答、「アリカワ」盲長が一人ノ首ヲ切り「キタムラ」
ガ他ノ首ノ首ヲ切りマシタ。

問、「キタムラ」トハ誰テスカ、

答、檜陰將校テス、彼ハ「ダムラ」ニ行ク前「エ
レヴァンタ」ノ兵站ニ居マシタ。

問、彼ハ何カ此事柄ニ關係ガアリノテスカ、

答、盲長ノ刀ハアマリ良ク切レナカツタノテ、彼ハ
二番目ノ俘虜ヲ「キタムラ」ニ渡シマシタ。

問、何故「キタムラ」ハ處刑ノ場ニ居タノテスカ、

答、彼ノ家ハ近クニアリマシタノテ見物ニ行ツタモ
ノト恩ハレベス。

問、貴方が見タ白人俘虜ハ此等三人丈テスカ、

答、ハイ。

「■・ラグルス」軍曹（聯合國譯譯通譯部附添
洲空軍）ノ榎佐ノ下ニ訊問ヲ受ケタル第十七軍
附屬兵隊ノ「イトウタチ」監軍少佐ハ左ノ如
ク述ブ。

問、一九四三年十一月ト十二月ニ貴方ハ「エレヴァ
ンタ」第十七軍附屬兵隊ノ指揮ヲシテ居マシタ
カ、

答、ハイ、一九四三年十月カラテス。

問、「ワタナベ」ハ貴方ノ指揮下ニアリマシタカ、

答、ハイ。

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問、一九四三年十二月ニ貴方ハ倉森口飛行士ニ聞

答、テ「ワタナベ」カラ信號ヲ受ケマシタカ、
答、ハイ。

問、其ノ信號ハ何テシタカ、

答、此ノ信號ハ彼等ガ過亡ヲ企テ、抵抗ヲ爲シタ事
ヲ説明シ、彼等ノ處置ニツイテノ命令ヲ仰イダ
モノテス。

問、此ノ信號ヲ受ケテ貴方へ如何ニシマシタカ、

答、私ハソレヲ第十七軍之長(「アキナガ」少將)
ノ事務室ニ居ル「ミヤカワ」監軍少佐(現在ハ
中佐)ノトコロニ持ツテ行キマシタ。

問、「ミヤカワ」ハ如何ニスベキカラ貴方ニ云ヒマ
シタカ、

答、試々ハ相談ラシマシタ、私方谷ラシイタト思ヒ
マスガ澤山ノ信號ヲ取扱ツテキマシタノテ今焼
エテキマセン。二年前ノ事テスカラ私ハソノ事
ヲ良ク思ヒ出ス事ガ出来マセン。

問、誰ガソレヲ決定シタノテスカ、

答、私テハアリマセンテシタ。——本部テシタ。

問、答ハ何テシタカ、

答、彼等ヲ悉スベシトイフノテシタ。

問、答ラ過ル前ニ、貴方或ハ「ミヤカワ」ハ誰カラ
ノ言ト其ノ事柄ヲ審議シマシタカ、

、 知りマセン。 本部ニハ他ノ將校ガ居マシタ、ソ
ノ人達ガ相談ニハスツタカモシレマセン。

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本音譯ハ陸軍司令部附、S E 10334、陸軍少佐
「D. T. M. クペイント」、眞通音ニ引用シアルトコロ
ノ監譯書、A. ト記シテ附シタル文書ニシテ、同
少佐ガ上記眞通音ニ宣誓ヲナスニ當リテ彼ニ呈示セ
ラレシモノナル事ヲ、本一九四六年五月二十七日私
ノ名ニ於イテ宣誓サル。

「W. ブンセル」 大尉 (署名)

8.